



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin --Rodney Spruill, 38, of Calumet City, Illinois, pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Madison to transporting a minor from Madison to the Chicago area with the intent she engage in prostitution. U.S. States District Judge John C. Shabaz scheduled sentencing for December 22, 2005. Spruill faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison.

The government's proof showed that on or about May 2, 2005, the defendant and a friend transported a fifteen-year-old girl and others from Madison, Wisconsin to Chicago, Illinois. When they arrived in Chicago, the defendant purchased clothes, shoes and makeup for the girl, and also provided her with false identification. That evening, the defendant took the girl to a party and told her to strip and dance in front of approximately 20 males, and also to have sexual contact with at least one of those males for money. Spruill was convicted of a similar offense in this district in 2000 and received a 57-month sentence for that offense.

The charges against Spruill were the result of an investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Madison and Chicago, the Madison Police Department, and the Calumet City, Illinois Police Department. Prosecution of this case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura A. Przybylinski Finn.

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